



# News Release



## WISCONSIN HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

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*For Immediate Release*

### **Be Cyber Savvy October is Cyber Security Awareness Month**

(MADISON) – Are you, your family and your business safe and secure online? Chances are you know someone who has been targeted by cyber criminals. That's why Governor Walker has declared October as Cyber Security Awareness Month to provide information on how to help keep your information safe while online.

Despite warnings, nearly a quarter million people in the U.S. each year fall victim to cyber scams resulting in over \$800 million in losses. Wisconsin ranks 22nd in the nation for the number of internet crime complaints filed with law enforcement. Officials say last year, more than \$9.2 million in cyber theft occurred in the state impacting more than 3,200 Wisconsin consumers.

As part of Wisconsin's Cyber Security Awareness Month, ReadyWisconsin is focusing on simple steps to take to be more secure while online.

#### **Week 1: October 1-4 / Best Cyber Practices**

Don't become a victim of a cyber attack! Learn about the top five cyber scams and what you can do to safely navigate the Internet.

#### **Week 2: October 5-12 / Creating a Culture of Cybersecurity at Work**

Did you know that more than 70% of cyber attacks or data breaches on businesses could have been prevented? Learn about common threats businesses and employees are exposed to and how businesses can take simple steps to improve their security.

#### **Week 3: October 13-18/ Staying Protected While We Are Always Connected**

Recent data shows nearly two-thirds Americans own a smartphone. The smartphone and other mobile devices allow users not only a connection to online information but also provide an opening to cyber risks. Learn tips on how to stay safe when using your mobile devices.

#### **Week 4: October 19-25 / Your Evolving Digital Life**

The Internet is not only a place for gathering information. It's also being used to run our cars and medical devices. Many household appliances will soon be connected. Refrigerators will email when you're low on milk. However, securing all of these devices in the vast Internet ecosystem is a new challenge. This week

will focus on some of the everyday household items that are now being run online and how we can keep our digital lives more secure with emerging technology.

**Week 5: October 26-30 / Building the Next Generation of Cyber Professionals**

One of the greatest risks to our cybersecurity is the shortage of professionals to protect the vast networks and products that are being developed. Learn about the possibility of a cybersecurity career as well as other education opportunities.

**Wisconsin's Cyber Security Summit**

As part of Cyber Awareness Month in October, Wisconsin will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Cyber Security Summit intended to link business leaders, state and federal partners, and industry experts together to discuss the state's role in cyber security. The event will be held Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at the Marquette University Alumni Memorial Union in Milwaukee. Registration information is located at:

<https://www.trainingwisconsin.org/index.aspx>

For more information about Wisconsin's Cyber Security Awareness Month and the Cyber Security Summit, go to [ReadyWisconsin.wi.gov](http://ReadyWisconsin.wi.gov). For daily cyber tips, follow ReadyWisconsin on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/readywisconsin](http://www.facebook.com/readywisconsin)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/readywisconsin](http://www.twitter.com/readywisconsin)) and visit our website: <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov>.

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